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EXAMINER

JACOBS, LASHONDA T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 09/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/086,490

Applicant(s)

MCMORRIS ET AL.

Examiner

LaShonda T. Jacobs

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims **1-37** and **39-62** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Geiger et al (hereinafter, “Geiger”, U.S. Pat. No. 6,463,534).

As per claim **1**, Geiger discloses a method comprising:

- maintaining in a network node a data structure that includes a set of domain names and at least one alternative domain name corresponding to each domain name from the set of domain names, the network node coupled to a wireless network and a wired network (col. 8, lines 28-45 and col. 15, lines 18-45); and
- using the data structure to validate a domain name associated with an attempted access to a network site on the wired network by a mobile device on the wireless network (col. 13, lines 14-22).

As per claim **11**, Geiger discloses a method comprising:

- obtaining a first domain name provided by a client (col. 13, lines 14-22);
- retrieving a second domain name from a digital certificate (col. 13, lines 27-43);

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- comparing the first domain name and the second domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63); and
- accessing a data structure if the first domain name and the second domain name do not match (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim 27, Geiger discloses a method comprising:

- obtaining a first domain name transmitted by a mobile device, the mobile device connected to a wireless network (col. 13, lines 14-22);
- retrieving a second domain name from a digital certificate transmitted by a secure server, the secure server located on a wired network, the wired network is coupled to the wireless network (col. 13, lines 27-43);
- comparing the first domain name and the second domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63); and
- accessing a data structure if the first domain name and the second domain name do not match, the data structure comprising at least one domain name not matching to the first domain name, the at least one domain name corresponding to the first domain name and if present in the digital certificate indicates that the digital certificate was transmitted by a server referenced by the first domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim 39, Geiger discloses a method comprising:

- obtaining a first domain name transmitted by a mobile device, the mobile device connected to a wireless network (col. 13, lines 14-22);

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- retrieving a second domain name from a digital certificate transmitted by a secure server, the secure server located on a wired network, the wired network is coupled to the wireless network by a proxy gateway (col. 13, lines 27-43);
- using a proxy gateway to compare the first domain name and the second domain name (col. 11, lines 29-38);
- using the proxy gateway to access a mapping table if the first domain name and the second domain name do not match, the mapping table located on the proxy gateway and comprising at least two fields, a second field of the at least two fields comprising at least one domain name corresponding to a domain name in a first field of the at least two fields (col. 11, lines 29-38 and col. 14, lines 46-57);
- searching the first field for a domain name matching the first domain name and searching the second field for a domain name matching the second domain name, the domain name from the second field corresponding to the domain name from the first field, a matching of domain name in the second field to the second domain name indicating that the digital certificate was transmitted by a server referenced by the first domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63); and
- allowing the mobile device to access contents of the server if the domain name from the second field matches the second domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim 49, Geiger discloses an apparatus comprising:

- means for obtaining a first domain name provided by a client (col. 13, lines 14-22);

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- means for retrieving a second domain name from a digital certificate (col. 13, lines 14-22);
- means for comparing the first domain name and the second domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63); and
- means for accessing a data structure if the first domain name and the second domain name do not match (col. 16, lines 8-29).

As per claim **50**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the digital certificate is transmitted by a server on a wired network (col. 18, lines 452-60).

As per claim **59**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the client is a mobile device connected to a wireless network (col. 13, lines 14-22).

As per claim **60**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the digital certificate is transmitted by a server on a wired network, the wired network coupled to the wireless network by the processing system (col. 18, lines 452-60).

As per claim **2**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the network node is a proxy gateway which proxies communications between mobile devices on the wireless network and sites on the wired network (col. 9; lines 22-28).

As per claim **3**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the domain name associated with an attempted access to the network site is a domain name retrieved from a digital certificate transmitted by a server located on the wired network (col. 13, lines 14-22).

As per claims **4, 14, 29, 40** and **61**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the wired network is Internet (col. 2, lines 56-65).

As per claims **5, 15** and **62**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the server is a secure server (col. 2, lines 56-65).

As per claims **6, 18, 31, 53** and **65**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the data structure comprises at least two fields (col. 8, lines 28-45 and col. 15, lines 18-45).

As per claims **7, 19, 32, 54** and **66**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein a second field of the at least two fields comprises the at least one alternative domain name corresponding to a domain name in a first field of the at least two fields (col. 8, lines 28-45 and col. 15, lines 18-45).

As per claim **8**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein using the data structure to validate the domain name comprises searching the second field for a domain name matching the domain name associated with the attempted access to the network site, the domain name in the second field corresponding to the domain name in the first field (col. 8, lines 28-45 and col. 15, lines 18-45).

As per claims **9, 26, 28**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the data structure is a mapping table (col. 14, lines 46-57).

As per claim **12**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the client is a mobile device connected to a wireless network (col. 13, lines 14-22).

As per claim **13**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the digital certificate is transmitted by a server on a wired network (col. 18, lines 45-52).

As per claims **20**, **33**, **55** and **67**, Geiger further discloses:

- searching the first field for a domain name matching the first domain name and searching the second field for a domain name matching the second domain name, the domain name from the second field corresponding to the domain name from the first field (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claims **16**, **21**, **52**, **56**, **64** and **68**, Geiger further discloses:

- allowing the client to access contents of the server if the first domain name and the second domain name match (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claims **10**, **25**, **38**, **41**, **57** and **69**, discloses:

- wherein the domain name from the second field supports wildcard characters.

As per claim **17**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the data structure comprises at least one domain name not matching to the first domain name, the at least one domain name corresponds to the first domain name and if present in the digital certificate indicates that the digital certificate was transmitted by a server referenced by the first domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim **22**, Geiger further discloses:

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- allowing the client to access the server if the domain name from the second field matches the second domain name and a status of the first field and the second field is set to an allow status (col. 16, lines 29-41).

As per claim **23**, Geiger further discloses:

- denying the client an access to the server if the domain name from the second field does not match the second domain name (col. 16, lines 8-29).

As per claim **24**, Geiger further discloses:

- denying the client an access to the server if a status of the first field and the second field is set to a deny status (col. 16, lines 8-29).

As per claims **30** and **34**, Geiger further discloses:

- allowing the mobile device to access contents of the server if the first domain name and the second domain name match (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim **35**, Geiger further discloses:

- allowing the mobile device to access the server if the domain name from the second field matches the second domain name and a status of the first field and the second field is set to an allow status (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim **36**, Geiger further discloses:

- denying the mobile device an access to the server if the domain name from the second field does not match the second domain name (col. 16, lines 8-29).

As per claim **37**, Geiger further discloses:

- denying the mobile device an access to the server if a status of the first field and the second field is set to a deny status (col. 16, lines 8-29).

As per claim **42**, Geiger discloses an apparatus comprising:

- a gateway coupling a wireless network to a wired network, the gateway configured to receive a request comprising a first domain name from a mobile device connected to the wireless network, the gateway further configured to transmit the request to a server, the server located on the wired network, the server configured to transmit a digital certificate comprising a second domain name to the gateway (col. 18, lines 45-63); and
- the gateway further configured to compare the first domain name and the second domain name and to access a mapping table if the first domain name and the second domain name do not match (col. 11, lines 29-38 and col. 14, lines 46-57).

As per claim **43**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the gateway is a proxy gateway (col. 11, lines 29-38).

As per claim **44**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the gateway comprises the mapping table (col. 11, lines 29-38 and col. 14, lines 46-57).

As per claim **45**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the mapping table comprises at least two fields (col. 14, lines 46-57).

As per claim **46**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein a second field of the at least two fields of the mapping table comprises at least one domain name corresponding to a domain name in a first field of the at least two fields (col. 14, lines 46-57).

As per claim **47**, Geiger discloses:

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- wherein the gateway configured to search the first field for a domain name matching the first domain name and the gateway further configured to search the second field for a domain name matching the second domain name, the domain name from the second field corresponds to the domain name from the first field (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim **48**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the gateway further configured to allow the mobile device to access the server if the domain name from the second field matches the second domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63).

As per claim **51**, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the client is a mobile device connected to a wireless network, the wireless network is coupled to a wired network by a gateway (col. 13, lines 14-22).

As per claim **58**, Geiger discloses a processing system comprising:

- a processor (col. 2, lines 56-65 and col. 4, lines 59-65); and
- a storage medium having stored therein instructions which, when executed by the processor (col. 2, lines 56-65 and col. 4, lines 59-65), cause the processing system to perform a method comprising:
 1. obtaining a first domain name entered by a client (col. 13, lines 14-22);
 2. retrieving a second domain name from a digital certificate (col. 13, lines 14-22);

3. comparing the first domain name and the second domain name (col. 18, lines 45-63); and
4. accessing a data structure if the first domain name and the second domain name do not match (col. 16, lines 8-29).

As per claim 63, Geiger discloses:

- wherein the processing system is a proxy gateway (col. 11, lines 29-34 and col. 18, lines 452-60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 38 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Geiger in view of Shuster et al (hereinafter, "Shuster", U.S. Pat. No. 6,687,746).

As per claim 38, Geiger discloses the invention substantially as claims discussed above.

However, Geiger does not explicitly disclose:

- wherein the domain name from the second field supports wildcard characters.

Shuster discloses a system, apparatus and method for hosting and assigning domain names on a wide area network including:

- wherein the domain name from the second field supports wildcard characters (col. 6, lines 16-24, col. 7, lines 50-67 and col. 8, lines 1-2).

Given the teaching of Shuster, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have incorporated the use of wildcard DNS (wildcard characters) in order to identify and locate the top-level and second-level portion of the requested domain in a timely and efficient manner.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0172465 to Shuster et al

U.S. Pat. No. 6,526,450 to Zhang et al

U.S. Pat. No. 6,449,657 to Stanbach, Jr. et al

U.S. Pat. No. 6,332,158 to Risley et al

U.S. Pat. No. 6,678,717 to Schneider

U.S. Pat. No. 6,338,082 to Schneider

U.S. Pat. No. 6,901,436 to Schneider

U.S. Pat. No. 6,895,430 to Schneider

U.S. Pat. No. 6,760,746 to Schneider

U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0038420 to Collins et al

U.S. Pat. No. 6,223,291 to Puhl et al

U.S. Pat. No. 6,895,431 to Bero


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaShonda T. Jacobs whose telephone number is 571-272-4004. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 A.M.-5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LaShonda T Jacobs
Examiner
Art Unit 2157

ltj
August 29, 2005


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